

FOR WIRE TRANSMISSION 10:00 A.M. ET, Wednesday, August 13, 2003

CB-03-122

MANUFACTURING AND TRADE INVENTORIES AND SALES **June 2003**

Intention to Revise Estimates: Revisions to the unadjusted and adjusted monthly estimates of manufacturing shipments and inventories are scheduled for release on August 19, 2003. At that time, the manufacturing estimates will again include the semiconductor industry. For further information on this change, see <http://www.census.gov/indicator/www/m3/index.html>. These estimates will be reflected in the September 15 release of this report.

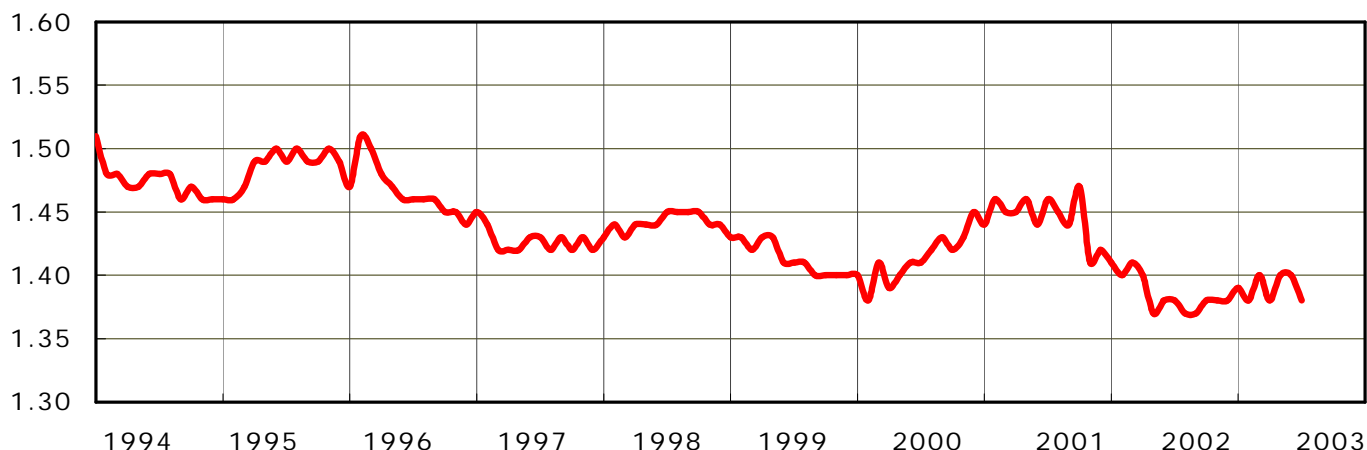
Sales. The Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that the combined value of distributive trade sales and manufacturers' shipments (excluding semiconductors) for June, adjusted for seasonal and trading-day differences but not for price changes, were estimated at \$845.2 billion, up 1.1 percent ($\pm 0.2\%$) from May and up 3.1 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$) from June 2002.

Inventories. Manufacturers' and trade inventories (excluding semiconductors) adjusted for seasonal variations but not for price changes, were estimated at an end-of-month level of \$1,168.3 billion, up 0.1 percent ($\pm 0.1\%$) from May and up 3.3 percent ($\pm 0.5\%$) from June 2002.

Inventories/Sales Ratio. The total business inventories/sales ratio based on seasonally adjusted data at the end of June was 1.38. The June 2002 ratio was 1.38.

Total Business Inventories/Sales Ratios: 1994 to 2003

(Data adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading-day differences but not for price changes)



The Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales Report for July is scheduled for release September 15, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. Questions concerning this report may be addressed to: Scott Scheleur (301) 763-2713 (Retail), Dan Sansbury (301) 763-4832 (Manufacturing), or Nancy Piesto (301) 763-2747 (Wholesale). Electronic inquiries may be sent to: retail.trade@census.gov.

The wholesale and manufacturing data in this report also appear in the following monthly Census Bureau publications: Current Industrial Reports (see M3 series for manufacturers data) and Current Business Reports (see BW series for merchant wholesalers). Retail data are available on the Census website at <http://www.census.gov/mrts/www/mrts.html>. June data was released August 4 for Manufacturers and August 7 for merchant wholesalers. The data are also available the day of issue on the Internet- <http://www.census.gov/bussales> - and on Department of Commerce's STAT-USA website; for information, call (202) 482-1986.

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Sales and Inventories for Manufacturers, Retailers, and Merchant Wholesalers
(In millions of dollars)

	Sales			Inventories ¹			Inventories/Sales Ratios		
	Jun. 2003	May 2003	Jun. 2002	Jun. 2003	May 2003	Jun. 2002	Jun. 2003	May 2003	Jun. 2002
	(p)	(r)	(s)	(p)	(r)	(s)			
Adjusted									
Total business ³	845,230	835,780	819,478	1,168,312	1,167,232	1,130,803	1.38	1.40	1.38
Manufacturers ^{3,4}	324,611	321,153	320,810	430,508	431,356	428,230	1.33	1.34	1.33
Retailers.....	283,096	280,578	270,093	448,755	446,914	418,653	1.59	1.59	1.55
Merchant wholesalers.....	237,523	234,049	228,575	289,049	288,962	283,920	1.22	1.23	1.24
Not Adjusted									
Total business.....	871,434	859,473	836,027	1,156,450	1,165,555	1,118,854	1.33	1.36	1.34
Manufacturers ^{3,4}	345,396	327,848	339,333	427,426	433,720	425,000	1.24	1.32	1.25
Retailers.....	285,016	295,032	270,324	442,871	446,019	412,835	1.55	1.51	1.53
Merchant wholesalers.....	241,022	236,593	226,370	286,153	285,816	281,019	1.19	1.21	1.24

See footnotes and notes at the end of Table 3.

(p) Preliminary.

(r) Revised.

(s) Adjusted data were revised due to concurrent seasonal adjustment. No revisions were made to Not Adjusted data.

Table 2. Percent Changes for Sales and Inventories -- Manufacturers, Retailers, and Merchant Wholesalers

	Adjusted						Not Adjusted					
	Sales			Inventories			Sales			Inventories		
	Jun. 03/ May 03	May 03/ Apr. 03	Jun. 03/ Jun. 02	Jun. 03/ May 03	May 03/ Apr. 03	Jun. 03/ Jun. 02	Jun. 03/ May 03	May 03/ Apr. 03	Jun. 03/ Jun. 02	Jun. 03/ May 03	May 03/ Apr. 03	Jun. 03/ Jun. 02
Total business.....	1.1	0.2	3.1	0.1	-0.3	3.3	1.4	3.0	4.2	-0.8	-1.0	3.4
Manufacturers.....	1.1	0.3	1.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	5.4	3.4	1.8	-1.5	0.1	0.6
Retailers.....	0.9	0.3	4.8	0.4	-0.3	7.2	-3.4	5.8	5.4	-0.7	-1.5	7.3
Merchant wholesalers..	1.5	-0.2	3.9	0.0	-0.4	1.8	1.9	-0.9	6.5	0.1	-1.7	1.8

Table 3. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales, Inventories, and Inventories/Sales Ratios, By Kind of Business
(In millions of dollars)

NAICS Code	Kind of Business	Sales			Inventories ¹			Percent Change In Inventories			Inventories/Sales Ratios		
		Jun. 2003 (p)	My 2003 (r)	Jun. 2002 (s)	Jun. 2003 (p)	My 2003 (r)	Jun. 2002 (s)	Jun. 03/ My 03	My 03/ Apr. 03	Jun. 03/ Jun. 02	Jun. 03	My 03	Jun. 02
	Adjusted ²												
	Retail trade, total.....	283,086	280,578	270,093	448,755	446,914	418,653	0.4	-0.3	7.2	1.59	1.59	1.55
	Total (excl. motor veh. & parts).....	207,387	205,137	199,408	292,478	291,571	284,223	0.3	-0.4	2.9	1.41	1.42	1.43
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers.....	75,709	75,441	70,685	156,277	155,343	134,430	0.6	-0.2	16.3	2.06	2.06	1.90
442,3	Furniture, home furn., elect. & appl. stores..	16,182	16,027	15,390	27,072	26,596	25,580	1.8	1.1	5.8	1.67	1.66	1.66
444	Building materials, garden equip & supplies..	26,663	26,008	25,112	44,473	44,053	41,816	1.0	0.6	6.4	1.67	1.69	1.67
445	Food & beverage stores.....	42,275	41,831	40,875	34,547	34,575	33,795	-0.1	0.2	2.2	0.82	0.83	0.83
448	Clothing & clothing access. stores.....	14,757	14,617	14,333	36,876	36,863	35,129	0.0	-0.1	5.0	2.50	2.52	2.45
452	General merchandise stores.....	39,304	39,155	38,236	66,688	66,599	64,342	0.1	-1.4	3.6	1.70	1.70	1.68
4521	Dept. strs. (excl. leased depts.).....	18,171	18,119	19,060	36,703	36,925	38,409	-0.6	-2.1	-4.4	2.02	2.04	2.02
	Not Adjusted												
	Retail trade, total.....	285,016	295,032	270,324	442,871	446,019	412,835	-0.7	-1.5	7.3	1.55	1.51	1.53
	Total (excl. motor veh. & parts).....	204,848	212,846	196,560	284,306	285,486	276,342	-0.4	-1.4	2.9	1.39	1.34	1.41
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers.....	80,168	82,186	73,764	158,565	160,533	136,493	-1.2	-1.7	16.2	1.98	1.95	1.85
442,3	Furniture, home furn., elect. & appl. stores..	15,345	15,575	14,571	26,287	25,825	24,813	1.8	0.0	5.9	1.71	1.66	1.70
444	Building materials, garden equip & supplies..	30,558	31,267	28,007	45,051	45,683	42,318	-1.4	-0.9	6.5	1.47	1.46	1.51
445	Food & beverage stores.....	41,644	43,811	40,844	34,037	34,013	33,288	0.1	-0.3	2.3	0.82	0.78	0.82
448	Clothing & clothing access. stores.....	13,503	14,734	13,196	35,438	35,352	33,794	0.2	-1.3	4.9	2.62	2.40	2.56
452	General merchandise stores.....	37,831	39,423	37,038	62,883	64,105	60,728	-1.9	-2.4	3.5	1.66	1.63	1.64
4521	Dept. strs. (excl. leased depts.).....	16,910	17,876	17,866	34,427	35,559	36,066	-3.2	-3.1	-4.5	2.04	1.99	2.02

(p) Preliminary (r) Revised (s) Adjusted data were revised due to concurrent seasonal adjustment. No revisions were made to Not Adjusted data.

¹ Inventories are on a non-LIFO basis as of the end of the month.

² Adjusted for seasonal variations and, in the case of sales, for trading-day differences and holiday variations. Concurrent seasonal adjustment is being used to adjust all sales, shipment and inventory estimates. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-12-ARIMA program. The factors derived from the program are applied to the current and previous month estimates and for retail and wholesale estimates a year ago as well. For retail sales, concurrent seasonal adjustment is also used to adjust the advance estimates (published one month before the preliminary estimates) and the estimates one year before the advance month. This explains the revision to retail estimates from a year ago.

³ Total business and manufacturers estimates exclude semiconductor manufacturers. The number of semiconductor manufacturers choosing not to participate in the voluntary manufacturing monthly survey has risen to a level such that the Census Bureau can no longer produce monthly estimates of semiconductor data.

⁴ Manufacturers sales refer to the value of shipments by manufacturers. The shipments data from individual manufacturers are adjusted prior to tabulation for the number of trading days as well as for any variations in the length of the reporting period.

Note: U.S. and group totals include kinds of business not shown. The Manufacturing and Trade Inventory and Sales estimates are based on data from three surveys: the Monthly Retail Trade Survey, the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, and the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey. The sampling variability for retailers and merchant wholesalers can be used to construct a 90 percent confidence interval for the estimates. Over all possible samples, 90 percent of such intervals will cover the true estimate. These intervals are given in parentheses for the estimates on the front page. If, for example, the estimate is up 0.8 percent and the margin of sampling error is ± 1.2 percent, the 90 percent confidence interval is -0.4 percent to +2.0 percent. If the range contains 0, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. Measures of reliability for Retail and Wholesale sales and inventory levels and changes are included in the detailed monthly press releases for those industries. Manufacturers do not contribute to estimates of sampling variability because the manufacturer's mail panel is not a probability sample from a known frame and standard errors of the industry estimates cannot be calculated. Estimates from all three surveys are also subject to nonsampling errors, which can arise in any stage of the survey. Such errors include coverage error (failure to accurately represent all population units in the sample) response errors, coding errors, and nonresponse. Although no direct measurement of these errors has been obtained, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data to minimize their influence.